Application No. 10/665,188
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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method of preparing an amniotic membrane extract, said method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a healthy amniotic membrane from a pregnant mammal;

homogenizing said membrane to obtain a homogenate solution;

freezing said homogenate solution; and

lyophilizing said frozen homogenate solution to dryness.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of processing said lyophilized homogenate to a powder.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of reconstituting said lyophilized homogenate.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said lyophilized homogenate is reconstituted in a liquid.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said liquid is selected from the group consisting of balanced salt solution and fresh amniotic fluid.

6. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said lyophilized homogenate is reconstituted in a gel, an ointment, a cream or a soap.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said amniotic membrane is a human amniotic membrane.

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8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said amniotic membrane is obtained from a mammal selected from the group consisting of pig, cow or horse.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said amniotic membrane is freshly obtained.

10. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease or condition, said composition comprising:

a therapeutically effective amount of an amniotic membrane extract prepared according to the method of claim 1; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for administering said amniotic membrane extract to a patient in need of said prophylaxis and/or treatment.

11. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is selected from the group consisting of an ophthalmic solution for eye drops, a gel, an ointment, an emulsion, a cream, a powder and a spray.

12. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is a bandage or a medicinal contact lens for local administration to said patient.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease or condition, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a patient in need of such prophylaxis and/or treatment; and

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administering an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim ~~11~~10 to said patient.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of persistent corneal ulcer, Ocular Cicatritial Pemphigoid, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, conjunctival inflammation, dry eye, Sjögren's syndrome, chemical or thermal injuries, multi-surgery effects, contact lenses over-wear, severe microbial infections, neurotrophic keratitis, ischemic keratitis, peripheral ulcerative or inflammatory keratitis, limbitis aniridia, pterigium or pseudopterigium, and multiple endocrine deficiency.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said carrier in said pharmaceutical composition for said amniotic membrane extract is preservative free eye drops.

16. (Original) A kit for prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease or condition, wherein said kit comprises:

a therapeutically effective amount of an amniotic membrane extract prepared according to the method of claim 1; and

instructions for the use thereof.

17. (Original) The kit of claim 16, said kit further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for administering said amniotic membrane extract to a patient in need of said prophylaxis and/or treatment.

18. (New) A method of prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease or condition, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a patient in need of such prophylaxis and/or treatment; and

administering an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 11 to said patient.

19. (New) A method of prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease or condition, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a patient in need of such prophylaxis and/or treatment; and

administering an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 to said patient.